

REMARKS

Claims 11-14, 17, 20, and 23 are pending in this application.

Applicant has amended claims 11-14, 17, 20, and 23, and has canceled claims 1-10, 15, 16, 18, 19, 22, 22, and 24-26. These changes do not introduce any new matter.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant appreciates the Examiner's prompt indication that claims 11-14, 17, 20, 23, and 26 define allowable subject matter. Applicant has amended each of claims 11-14, 17, 20, and 23 by rewriting the claim in independent form. Thus, amended claims 11-14, 17, 20, and 23 are in condition for immediate allowance.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 101

As noted above, claims 24-26 have been canceled. Thus, the rejection of claims 24-26 under 35 U.S.C. § 101 is moot.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

In the Office Action, claims 1-10, 15, 16, 18, 19, 21, 22, 24, and 25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Horikoshi* (US 6,315,387 B1) in view of *Horikoshi* (JP 11-331585). The cancellation of claims 1-10, 15, 16, 18, 19, 21, 22, 24, and 25 renders this rejection moot.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and reexamination of claims 11-14, 17, 20, and 23, as amended herein, and submits that these claims are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, a notice of allowance is respectfully requested. In the event a telephone conversation would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner may reach the undersigned at **(408) 749-6902**. If any additional

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fees are due in connection with the filing of this paper, then the Commissioner is authorized to charge such fees to Deposit Account No. 50-0805 (Order No. MIPFP163).

Respectfully submitted,
MARTINE PENILLA & GENCARELLA, L.L.P.

/Peter B. Martine/

Peter B. Martine
Reg. No. 32,043

710 Lakeway Drive, Suite 200
Sunnyvale, California 94085
Customer Number 25920